United Nations E/2012/15/Add.3*

Economic and Social Council

Distr.: General
10 September 2012

Original: English

Resumed substantive session of 2012
Agenda item 10
Regional cooperation

Regional cooperation in the economic, social and related fields**

Report of the Secretary-General

Addendum

Matters calling for action by the Economic and Social Council or brought to its attention: Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean

Summary

The present addendum to the report of the Secretary-General on regional cooperation in the economic, social and related fields contains resolutions adopted at the thirty-fourth session of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean, held in San Salvador from 27 to 31 August 2012. Full texts of the resolutions are available from: www.un.org/regionalcommissions/sessions.html.

* Reissued for technical reasons on 18 October 2012.

** The present report was submitted late in order to include information on the resolutions adopted by the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean at its thirty-fourth session, held in August 2012.

12-50213* (E) 251012

Please recycle

I. Matters calling for action by the Council

1. At its thirty-fourth session, held in San Salvador from 28 to 31 August 2012, the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) adopted resolutions 661 (XXXIV), 672 (XXXIV) and 674 (XXXIV), based upon which the following draft resolutions are submitted for action by the Council:

Draft resolution I
Venue of the thirty-fifth session of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean

The Economic and Social Council,

Bearing in mind paragraph 15 of the terms of reference of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean, as well as rules 1 and 2 of the rules of the procedure of the Commission,

Considering the invitation of the Government of Peru to host the thirty-fifth session of the Commission,

1. *Takes note* of Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean resolution 661 (XXXIV) of 31 August 2012 (see annex), by which the Commission accepted with pleasure the invitation of the Government of Peru to host the thirty-fifth session of the Commission;

2. *Endorses* the decision of the Commission to hold its thirty-fifth session in Peru in the first half of 2014.

Draft resolution II
Establishment of the Conference on Science, Innovation and Information and Communications Technologies of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean

The Economic and Social Council,

Taking note of Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean resolution 672 (XXXIV) of 31 August 2012 entitled "Establishment of the Conference on Science, Innovation and Information and Communications Technologies of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean" (see annex), by which the Commission approved the establishment of the Conference as one of its subsidiary bodies,

Considering the request of the Commission in resolution 672 (XXXIV) to the Executive Secretary of the Commission to submit the proposal for the establishment of the Conference to the relevant United Nations bodies for their consideration,

Endorses the establishment of the Conference on Science, Innovation and Information and Communications Technologies of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean as one of the subsidiary bodies of the Commission, in accordance with Commission resolution 672 (XXXIV).

Draft resolution III
Regional dimension of development in the Latin American and Caribbean Region[1]

The Economic and Social Council,

Noting that in its resolution 674 (XXXIV) of 31 August 2012 (see annex), the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean requested the Executive Secretary of the Commission to respond urgently and appropriately to the strategic challenges arising from the various activities being undertaken to define the development agenda beyond 2015, taking into account the needs and priorities of the Latin American and Caribbean region, and to ensure the strategic coordination of the United Nations system at the regional level in support of integration efforts, through the Regional Coordination Mechanism and in consultation with other regional and subregional organizations,

Noting also the actions proposed by the Executive Secretary of the Commission in response to the above-mentioned requests, as contained in the statement of programme budget implications submitted to the Council by the Secretariat,

Approves the actions proposed by the Executive Secretary of the Commission.

II. Matters brought to the attention of the Council

2. At its thirty-fourth session, held in San Salvador from 28 to 31 August 2012, ECLAC adopted a number of resolutions, the summaries of which are set out below.

Resolution 659 (XXXIV)
Calendar of conferences of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean for the period 2012-2014

3. Taking into account ECLAC resolution 553 (XXVI) on the reform of the United Nations and its impact on the Commission, in which it had recommended that the existing pattern of conferences of the Commission system should continue to serve as a basis for maintaining the simplicity, effectiveness and flexibility of its work, the Commission reaffirmed the decision to maintain the current intergovernmental structure and pattern of meetings and approved the calendar of conferences of the Commission.

4. After examining the proposed calendar of conferences for the period 2012-2014, the Commission reaffirmed that the current conference servicing system was efficient in terms of its substantive and organizational aspects and its cost-effectiveness. The Commission also reaffirmed the importance of continuing to entrust it with the task of organizing and holding regional and subregional meetings to prepare for and follow up on world conferences of the United Nations in the economic, social and sustainable development fields.

[1] A statement of programme budget implications will be submitted to the Council in connection with the draft resolution.

Resolution 660 (XXXIV)
Caribbean Development and Cooperation Committee

5. The Commission, recognizing the important role of the Caribbean Development and Cooperation Committee, established in 1975 as a subsidiary body of ECLAC to coordinate activities relating to development and cooperation, reaffirmed the key role that ECLAC, particularly through its subregional headquarters for the Caribbean, was mandated to play in coordinating development support at the subregional level for the Caribbean, in collaboration with the agencies, funds and programmes of the United Nations system and through direct engagement with Caribbean development partners. The Commission also welcomed the efforts by the subregional headquarters for the Caribbean to strengthen and fully operationalize the regional coordination mechanism to monitor and facilitate implementation of the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States.

Resolution 662 (XXXIV)
Admission of Bermuda as an associate member of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean

6. The Commission, recalling paragraphs 3 (a) and 4 of its terms of reference, which state that any territory, or part or group thereof, may on presentation of its application to the Commission by the member responsible for the international relations of such territory, part or group of territories, be eligible for admission by the Commission as an associate member of the Commission, welcomed the request made by the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland on behalf of the Governor of Bermuda that Bermuda be granted associate membership in the Commission and decided that such membership should be granted.

Resolution 663 (XXXIV)
Admission of Curaçao as an associate member of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean

7. The Commission, recalling paragraphs 3 (a) and 4 of its terms of reference, which state that any territory, or part or group thereof, may on presentation of its application to the Commission by the member responsible for the international relations of such territory, part or group of territories, be eligible for admission by the Commission as an associate member, welcomed the request made by the Embassy of the Netherlands in Santiago on behalf of the Government of Curaçao that the latter be granted associate membership in the Commission and decided that such membership should be granted.

Resolution 664 (XXXIV)
Admission of Guadeloupe as an associate member of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean

8. The Commission, recalling paragraphs 3 (a) and 4 of its terms of reference, which state that any territory, or part or group thereof, may on presentation of its application to the Commission by the member responsible for the international relations of such territory, part or group of territories, be eligible for admission by the Commission as an associate member, welcomed the request made by the Government of France on behalf of the Regional Council of Guadeloupe that

Guadeloupe be granted associate membership in the Commission and decided that such membership should be granted.

Resolution 665 (XXXIV)
Admission of Martinique as an associate member of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean

9. The Commission, recalling paragraphs 3 (a) and 4 of its terms of reference, which state that any territory, or part or group thereof, may on presentation of its application to the Commission by the member responsible for the international relations of such territory, part or group of territories, be eligible for admission by the Commission as an associate member, welcomed the request made by the Government of France on behalf of the Regional Council of Martinique that Martinique be granted associate membership in the Commission and decided that such membership should be granted.

Resolution 666 (XXXIV)
Structural change for equality: an integrated approach to development ("San Salvador resolution")

10. The Commission, having reviewed the document entitled "Structural change for equality: an integrated approach to development", welcomed the integrated approach to development that has marked the thinking of the Commission since its inception, recognized the relevance of the issues examined and supported the general tenor of the conclusions contained in the document.

11. The Commission requested the secretariat to conduct studies and formulate public policy proposals, in close cooperation with policymakers, with a view to building national economic and social development capacities, and called upon it to widely disseminate the document and promote its review in the economic, academic, political, business and social spheres in the region, by means of national dialogues on the main issues covered, taking each country's national characteristics into account, and in international organizations concerned with economic development, in order to continue to foster more in-depth comparative analysis vis-à-vis countries outside the region.

Resolution 667 (XXXIV)
Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean

12. The Commission, taking into account its work and the work carried out by the other agencies to support the Gender Equality Observatory for Latin America and the Caribbean, and the considerable progress achieved in disseminating and redesigning the observatory, welcomed the progress made since the adoption of the Brasilia Consensus at the eleventh session of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean as well as the respective agreement of the forty-sixth meeting of the Presiding Officers to promote South-South cooperation among machineries for the advancement of women in the Latin American and Caribbean countries, in the formulation of policies relating to care, comparative research, and the production, use and analysis of statistics.

13. The Commission also recognized the role it played, through its Division for Gender Affairs, in raising the profile of gender affairs at the meetings of the Ad Hoc

Committee on Population and Development and the Statistical Conference of the Americas of the Commission.

Resolution 668 (XXXIV)
Statistical Conference of the Americas

14. The Commission expressed its satisfaction at the increasing consolidation of the Statistical Conference of the Americas as the intergovernmental body that coordinates international statistical activities in Latin America and the Caribbean and fosters the strengthening of national statistical offices and national statistical systems.

15. The Commission called upon the Governments of the region to acknowledge the challenges facing national statistical systems in relation to producing all information needed to ensure that public policies are designed and evaluated on the basis of relevant, timely and good quality factual evidence, and to ensure the accountability of citizens and enable them to take informed decisions; and requested that the necessary resources be made available and that a suitable legal and institutional framework be consolidated, so that the public departments working on statistics might form an effective system and operate in a coordinated manner under the leadership of the central statistical office or institute.

16. The Commission also expressed its satisfaction with the adoption of the draft Code of Good Practice in Statistics in Latin America and the Caribbean and its proposed implementation plan, and urged the Governments and parliaments of the countries concerned to use the Code as a guide for adopting measures aimed at institutional strengthening of national statistical offices and the national statistical system as a whole. The Commission was also satisfied with the inclusion in the activities of the Conference of the analysis of new thematic areas and methodologies that enable better tracking of economic, social and environmental matters, as well as new approaches to poverty, the promotion of statistics on public security and justice and on childhood and adolescence, and measures that complement gross domestic product with other indicators that capture, among other aspects, environmental sustainability and unpaid work.

Resolution 669 (XXXIV)
Activities of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean in relation to follow-up to the Millennium Development Goals and implementation of the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic, social and related fields

17. The Commission, taking into particular consideration the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development entitled "The future we want", in reference to the significant role that the United Nations regional commissions have to play in promoting a balanced integration of the economic, social and environmental dimensions of sustainable development by facilitating institutional coherence and supporting the harmonization of development policies, plans and programmes, requested the secretariat to continue to cooperate with the countries of the region in the implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic, social and related fields, including the 2005 World Summit Outcome.

18. The Commission requested the secretariat to convene a governmental meeting of the Latin American and Caribbean countries, before the sixty-eighth session of

the General Assembly, to contribute to the regional debate on the United Nations development agenda beyond 2015 and sustainable development goals. It also requested the secretariat to continue to coordinate the preparation of annual regional inter-agency reports on the progress made towards achievement of the Millennium Development Goals, in the framework of the Regional Coordination Mechanism established pursuant to Economic and Social Council resolution 1998/46.

Resolution 670 (XXXIV)
Ad Hoc Committee on Population and Development

19. The Ad Hoc Committee on Population and Development is the body responsible for follow-up to the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing, and the respective regional initiatives for its implementation, in particular the Brasilia Declaration adopted in 2007, and the San José Charter on the Rights of Older Persons in Latin America and the Caribbean adopted at the Third Regional Intergovernmental Conference on Ageing in Latin America and the Caribbean, held in San José, from 8 to 11 May 2012, as well as the body responsible to monitor the issue of international migration.

20. Having considered those aspects as well as the agreements adopted at the meeting of the Ad Hoc Committee held in Quito from 4 to 6 July 2012, entitled "Regional Conference on Population and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean" and "Population, territory and sustainable development, and other priority activities", the Commission decided that the Ad Hoc Committee would be renamed the Regional Conference on Population and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean.

21. The Commission also thanked the United Nations Population Fund for its contribution to the activities of the Ad Hoc Committee, for the support provided and for its commitment to continue supporting the work of the Regional Conference on Population and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean and requested the competent funds, programmes and specialized agencies to make their contributions, as appropriate, to the activities to be carried out by the Regional Conference.

Resolution 671 (XXXIV)
Support for the work of the Latin American and Caribbean Institute for Economic and Social Planning

22. The Commission congratulated the Latin American and Caribbean Institute for Economic and Social Planning on the occasion of its fiftieth anniversary and commended its work as the regional body par excellence in the generation and diffusion of knowledge and proposals on the role of the State in development processes and in improving planning and public administration taking into account the specific characteristics and needs of each country in the region. The Commission requested its Executive Secretary and the Chief of the Institute to engage in a process of consultation and dialogue with national planning authorities with a view to identifying national, subregional and regional priorities in the area of development planning in 2013.

Resolution 673 (XXXIV)
Programme of work and priorities of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean for the biennium 2014-2015

23. The Commission, having considered the outcomes and activities of the previous biennium and the proposed strategic framework and the work priorities of the Commission contained in the draft programme of work of the ECLAC system, 2014-2015, adopted the programme of work in its totality and welcomed the creation of subprogramme 14, Support for regional and subregional integration and cooperation processes and organizations, which aims at providing such support through technical, substantive and logistical contributions, with a view to facilitating debate, decision-making and consensus-building both within the region and beyond.

24. The Commission also requested the Executive Secretary to continue to make particular efforts to examine the challenges faced by the region in connection with the ongoing impacts of the economic and financial crisis of 2008-2009 and related issues by undertaking specialized studies that would permit the provision of technical advisory services and the formulation of public policy options for dealing with such challenges.

25. The Commission also noted with interest that the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20), held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, from 20 to 22 June 2012, entitled "The future we want", encouraged the enhancement of the regional commissions and their subregional offices in their respective capacities to support Member States in implementing sustainable development.

Resolution 675 (XXXIV)
South-South cooperation

26. The Commission welcomed the report it had presented entitled "Middle-income countries: a structural-gap approach — note by the secretariat", and in the framework of the recommendations set forth therein, requested the Office of the Executive Secretary to support the countries in the preparation of their own studies, facilitate the dissemination of the studies across the international community and promote a specific debate at the regional intergovernmental level to enrich the conclusions of the report.

27. The Commission also requested the Executive Secretary to prepare a set of indicators for measuring the economic and social impact of South-South cooperation in the region, bearing in mind the progress achieved under the Ibero-American Programme to Strengthen South-South Cooperation of the Ibero-American Secretariat.

28. The Commission requested the Chair of the High-level Committee on South-South Cooperation, together with the Presiding Officers and the Office of the Executive Secretary, to prepare a proposal for coordinating efforts with the various entities that currently deal with the issue in Latin America and the Caribbean, in order to generate synergies and complementarities and avoid duplication of efforts, as well as to prepare a draft road map for promoting measures in support of the economic, political and physical autonomy of women, including the social dimension of and efforts related to combating all forms of discrimination, bearing in mind the special characteristics and potential of South-South cooperation.

Annex

Resolutions adopted by the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean at its thirty-fourth session, submitted for action by the Economic and Social Council

Resolution 661 (XXXIV)
Place of the next session of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean

The Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean,

Bearing in mind paragraph 15 of its terms of reference and rules 1 and 2 of its rules of procedure,

Considering the invitation of the Government of Peru to host the thirty-fifth session of the Commission,

1. *Expresses* its gratitude to the Government of Peru for its generous invitation;

2. *Accepts* this invitation with pleasure;

3. *Recommends* that the Economic and Social Council approve the decision of the Commission to hold its thirty-fifth session in Peru in the first half of 2014.

Resolution 672 (XXXIV)
Establishment of the Conference on Science, Innovation and Information and Communications Technologies of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean

The Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean,

Recalling the Buenos Aires Plan of Action for Promoting and Implementing Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries, which was endorsed by the General Assembly in its resolution 33/134 of 19 December 1978,

Bearing in mind the decisions adopted at the tenth meeting of the High-level Committee on the Review of Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries, held at United Nations Headquarters in New York from 5 to 9 May 1997, particularly decision 10/1 B on the review of the progress made in the implementation of the strategy of new directions for technical cooperation among developing countries,

Considering that, insofar as technical cooperation in the field of science, technology and innovation is concerned, the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean has been cooperating systematically to facilitate inter-agency coordination among countries, international organizations and national offices in member countries that carry out technical cooperation projects in the field of science, technology and innovation,

Considering also the key role played by the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean in the region in recent years in facilitating and encouraging dialogue among representatives of the countries of the region and in promoting the consolidation of institutions devoted to science, technology and innovation and to policies and regulatory frameworks for such activities,

Considering further the regional cooperation agreement on science and technology signed by a group of countries of the region at the joint meeting of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean and the United Nations Commission on Science and Technology for Development, held in Santiago on 12 November 2008, at which the role of the Economic Commission as technical secretariat was recognized and it was assigned responsibilities for the implementation of a range of activities, including ministerial meetings on science, technology and innovation matters and the School for Policymakers in Science, Technology and Innovation,

Recalling the principles and objectives set out in the Declaration of Principles and the Plan of Action adopted during the first phase of the World Summit on the Information Society, held in Geneva in December 2003, and in the Tunis Commitment and Tunis Agenda for the Information Society, adopted during the second phase of the World Summit on the Information Society, held in Tunis in November 2005, with a view to contributing to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals by 2015 at the latest and to the promotion of social, economic and cultural development,

Recalling also the principles and objectives set forth in the Bávaro Declaration, adopted in the Dominican Republic in January 2003, and in the Rio de Janeiro Commitment and the Plan of Action for the Information Society in Latin America and the Caribbean, adopted at the Regional Preparatory Ministerial Conference of Latin America and the Caribbean for the second phase of the World Summit on the Information Society, held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, in June 2005, the San Salvador Commitment and the Plan of Action for the Information Society in Latin America and the Caribbean, adopted at the second Ministerial Conference on the Information Society in Latin America and the Caribbean, held in San Salvador in February 2008, as well as the Lima Declaration and the Plan of Action for the Information and Knowledge Society in Latin America and the Caribbean adopted at the third Ministerial Conference on the Information Society in Latin America and the Caribbean, held in Lima from 21 to 23 November 2010,

Recognizing the support function performed by the United Nations regional commissions in the implementation of the Plan of Action adopted in Geneva, especially as regards the contribution made by Governments and stakeholders to the promotion of information and communications technologies for development and as regards international and regional cooperation and the creation of an enabling environment,

Recognizing also the substantive contribution made by the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean in supporting the countries of the region in both phases of the World Summit on the Information Society and in building the information society in the region since 2000, including the valuable technical support provided for the second and third Ministerial Conferences, held in 2008 and 2010, respectively,

Taking into account the need to promote cooperation in the spheres of science, technology, innovation and information and communications technologies,

Having examined the proposal for the establishment of the Conference on Science, Innovation and Information and Communications Technologies of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean, and the proposed

nature and the objectives of the Conference, as set forth in the annex to the present resolution,

1. *Requests* the Executive Secretary of the Commission, subject to availability of resources:

(a) To support the countries of the region in the formulation of national strategies and policies on science, technology and innovation that will underpin progress in knowledge appropriation and in the achievement of inclusive and sustainable development, by providing technical assistance, conducting substantive studies and collaborating in the preparation of meetings, in accordance with the capacity and areas of competence of the Commission;

(b) To provide technical assistance for regional cooperation mechanisms in the fields of science, technology and innovation by producing studies, statistics and substantive information on science, technology and innovation and on the information society, and on the related public policies, and to collaborate in the organization of technical meetings and ministerial meetings and their preparatory processes;

(c) To offer the countries of the region support and advice in identifying the priorities for developing knowledge societies and in including those priorities in negotiations on the formulation of national and regional strategies;

2. *Approves* the establishment of the Conference on Science, Innovation and Information and Communications Technologies of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean as one of the subsidiary bodies of the Commission, as set forth in the annex to the present resolution, together with the observations and suggestions included in the report of the Commission at its thirty-fourth session;

3. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to submit such proposals as may be necessary for the establishment of the Conference to the relevant United Nations bodies for their consideration;

4. *Also requests* the Executive Secretary to report on the fulfilment of this resolution at the thirty-fifth session of the Commission.

Annex to resolution 672 (XXXIV)

I. Conference on Science, Innovation and Information and Communications technologies of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean

Nature

1. The Conference on Science, Innovation and Information and Communications Technologies of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean shall be a subsidiary body of the Commission that will contribute to the progress of science, technology and innovation policies and activities in the countries of the region.

Objectives

2. The objectives of the Conference shall be:

(a) To promote the development and improvement of national policies on science, technology and innovation and those related to the progress of the information and knowledge society, bearing in mind the recommendations made by the specialized agencies and other relevant organizations;

(b) To further international, regional and bilateral cooperation among national offices and international and regional agencies to facilitate technology and knowledge transfer and joint activities in the field of science, technology and innovation;

(c) To prepare a biennial programme of regional and international cooperation activities designed to meet the needs of the countries of the region, subject to the availability of resources.

Membership

3. The States members of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean shall be members of the Conference.

Meetings of the Conference

4. The Conference shall hold its regular meetings every year. The Conference may accept an invitation from the Government of a member State to hold its regular meeting in that country.

Executive Committee

5. The Conference shall elect an Executive Committee in accordance with the regulations established by the Commission. The Chair of the Executive Committee shall also preside over the meetings of the Conference. The Executive Committee shall be empowered to convene a special meeting in the interval between regular meetings.

Secretariat

6. The secretariat of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean shall serve as the secretariat of the Conference on Science, Innovation and Information and Communications Technologies. The secretariat shall make available to the Conference such documents and facilities as have been approved by the Commission.

II. Executive Committee of the Conference on Science, Innovation and Information and Communications Technologies

Nature

7. The Conference shall establish an Executive Committee to support it, as set forth in paragraph 13 below.

Composition

8. The Executive Committee shall be composed of a Chair and six members. Its members shall be elected from among the member countries of the Commission. Special attention shall be devoted to ensuring that the subregional groupings of countries are represented on the Committee.

Election of the Executive Committee and duration of mandates

9. At the beginning of each meeting of the Conference, the Chair of the Executive Committee, in consultation with the members of the Committee and of the Conference, shall draw up a proposal for the election of the subsequent Executive Committee.

10. The newly elected Executive Committee shall take up its duties upon the conclusion of the regular meeting of the Conference at which it was elected and shall remain in office until the conclusion of the next regular meeting.

11. The members of the Executive Committee, including its Chair, shall be elected by the Conference at its regular meeting for a term of two years.

12. The members of the Executive Committee may be re-elected for three successive terms. The Chair may not be re-elected to that office for a second consecutive term but may be elected as a member of the Committee. Any member that has served on the Committee for three successive terms may be elected again once two years have elapsed since the end of that member's last mandate.

Duties

13. The Executive Committee shall have the following duties:

(a) To carry out the tasks assigned to it by the Conference;

(b) To prepare, every two years, a biennial programme of regional and international cooperation activities for supporting policies on science, technology and innovation, to be submitted at the regular meeting;

(c) To follow up on the implementation of the agreements adopted and the tasks assigned by the Conference, particularly with respect to the biennial programme of activities referred to in paragraph 2 (c) of section I;

(d) To decide on the documentation required for its meetings.

Meetings

14. The Executive Committee shall meet at least once during the interval between regular sessions of the Conference. At the meeting preceding the next session of the Conference, the Committee shall adopt a biennial programme of activities for the Conference, which shall be submitted to the Conference at its regular meeting.

15. The Executive Committee may invite to its meetings representatives of any countries or experts it considers may make a contribution to the fulfilment of its duties.

Resolution 674 (XXXIV)
Regional dimension of development

The Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean,

Recognizing that the regional dimension of development is critical for a coordinated and appropriate response to the increasingly significant number of challenges that transcend national boundaries, and considering that regional responses are increasingly relevant in the face of global crises,

Emphasizing the fact that the regional and subregional dimensions underpin effective global governance, since they act as a link between the global and national levels, particularly in the context of discussions for an integrated approach to sustainable development and for drawing up a development agenda beyond 2015,

Underscoring the role played historically by the Commission as a regional institution for Latin America and the Caribbean by virtue of its normative, analytical and dissemination functions and as a competent forum that shapes regional and subregional perspectives on global issues and builds consensus on issues crucial to the development of the region,

Highlighting the need for the Commission to participate in the debate on the development agenda beyond 2015, cooperate with the various forums established to study the issue and convey the relevant regional perspective,

Taking into account the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, from 20 to 22 June 2012, entitled "The future we want", and the multiple processes it has triggered, such as the proposal on sustainable development objectives and means of implementation,

Bearing in mind that an initiative was presented on that occasion for advancing towards the adoption of a regional instrument for the effective implementation of principle 10 of the Rio Declaration in the region with support from the Commission in its capacity as technical secretariat,

Bearing in mind also General Assembly resolution 66/246, in which the Assembly addresses issues relating to the programme budget for the biennium 2012-2013, with special reference to regional cooperation for development,

1. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to respond urgently and appropriately to the strategic challenges arising from the various activities being undertaken to define the development agenda beyond 2015, taking into account the needs and priorities of the Latin American and Caribbean region;

2. *Recognizes* the need for the Commission to enlist the immediate support of the relevant bodies to enhance its capacity to tackle the new strategic challenges;

3. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to ensure the strategic coordination of the United Nations system at the regional level in support of integration efforts, through the Regional Coordination Mechanism and in consultation with other regional and subregional organizations;

4. *Also requests* the Executive Secretary to report to the Commission at its thirty-fifth session on the status of implementation of the present resolution.